

WEATHER FORECAST:

Fair tonight and probably Sunday
Full Report on Page 2.

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WASHINGTON, SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1913.

Sixteen Pages

PRICE ONE CENT

HITCHCOCK'S "SURPLUS" DENIED BY COMMITTEE ON POSTAL INQUIRY

Report Declares Misleading Figures Involving Almost a Million Dollars Made Deficit of \$750,000 Appear to Be Profit of \$200,000—Vacancies Were Left Unfilled.

UNJUSTIFIABLE BOOKKEEPING IS CHARGE MADE BY INVESTIGATORS

Charges that Frank H. Hitchcock, as Postmaster General during the Taft Administration, made misleading reports involving almost a million dollars, that he withheld promotions, allowed vacancies to go unfilled to the detriment of the service, and made a deficit of \$750,000 appear to be a surplus of \$200,000 were set forth in a report received today by Postmaster General Burleson.

The allegations are made by a committee composed of Daniel C. Roper, Joseph Stewart, A. M. Dockery, James I. Blakslee, and Merritt O. Chance, respectively first, second, third, and fourth assistant postmasters general and chief clerk of the department. Their review covered the whole record of the department during the last four years.

BOOKKEEPING METHODS QUESTIONED.

It is charged that unjustifiable methods of bookkeeping were used by Mr. Hitchcock in order to show a supposed surplus. It is also asserted that he failed to fill vacancies, postponed promotions, and withheld the letting of big contracts until the very close of the administration for the purpose of keeping down expenses and swelling the surplus.

One of the foremost claims of Mr. Hitchcock was that the deficiency of approximately \$7,000,000 in 1909 had been entirely eliminated and that a surplus of more than \$500,000 was attained during the fiscal year of 1911. Refuting this claim, the committee declares that there has not been an honest surplus since 1905 and that the Hitchcock "surplus" was in reality a deficiency of approximately \$750,000. Actual figures are given to substantiate the contention.

Obligations Not Incurred.

Revenues and the cost of service were given by Mr. Hitchcock on incomparable bases, it is declared. It is asserted that revenues of the post service are collected almost entirely in cash, and consequently relate properly to the fiscal year for which the report is made, but, notwithstanding this fact, it was the practice of Mr. Hitchcock to compare these only with payments actually made during the fiscal year, regardless of obligations incurred in that year but not to be paid until succeeding years.

Explaining the practice, the committee says: "It has been sought to justify this procedure on the ground that the overlapping payments approximately commensurate for all practical purposes; but when the reported expenditures were subjected to mathematical analysis it was found that the immense and constantly increasing volume of postal transactions made under statements of expenditures possible in the lesser transactions of a previous year are included in the transactions of a given year and in part of the greater transactions of a given year go over to a succeeding year."

Allergic Criticism Just.

"The all-absorbing program of the last Administration was the placing of the Postoffice Department on a paying basis. The policy pursued in the effort to succeed at this plan was overworked and resulted in defective administration and just criticism on the part of the public.

"That efficiency and economy should be substituted for wastefulness and extravagance needs no argument, but the postal service affects so vitally the interests of the entire population of the country that economy which means a curtailment of postal facilities operates as a check to the social and industrial progress of the country. The people are entitled to the best facilities administered in the most efficient manner. That the facilities furnished during the last four years were not the best is clearly established by the facts."

Profit Claim Unfounded.

Referring to the practice of Mr. Hitchcock basing his statement of the cost of service upon payments made during the year as shown by the accounts settled by the auditor of the Postoffice Department irrespective of the years in which the obligations were incurred, the committee says:

"Notwithstanding the great zeal displayed in the effort to place the department on the so-called paying basis and the resultant injuries to the service, the claim of the former Postmaster General that the service actually yielded a profit in 1911 has no foundation in fact, as is shown herein."

It is to be further noticed that the balance sheet as heretofore prepared does not include the revenue from postage and the operations under the department and expenditures of the Postoffice Department. In addition, the committee says:

JAPANESE DRAFT NEW NOTE TO U.S.

Message Regarding California Anti-Alien Land Law Will Be Cabled to China.

TOKYO, May 31.—It was learned from a semi-official source today that the foreign office is drafting another note to be forwarded to Ambassador Chinda at Washington, in relation to the California land act.

The note, as soon as completed, will be cabled to the ambassador for presentation to the State Department.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 31.—The condition of Lee Dunning, the Mason car mechanic injured with Driver Jack Tower, in the race yesterday, was critical today. At the Methodist Hospital it was said Dunning's recovery was doubtful. Besides three broken ribs, he suffered internal injuries.

The seriousness of his case was hidden for a time behind Dunning's excitement, and he was allowed to witness the finish of the race from a cot outside the field hospital.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 31.—James Colovan, twenty-two, was instantly killed today at the Cicero flying field when the wires of his Curtiss biplane became entangled in a tree and he fell fifty feet.

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THOROUGH PROBE PLEDGED MINERS

Five Senators Will Begin Big Inquiry in Peonage Charges From West Virginia.

INVESTIGATION WILL GO DEEP

Chairman Swanson Will Call First Meeting Monday to Plan Proceedings.

The most important investigation into industrial and labor conditions ever made by a committee of Congress will be begun Monday by a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, which was designated today at a meeting at the Capitol. This is the inquiry under the Kern resolution into the charges of peonage and other grave abuses in the Paint Creek coal mining region of West Virginia.

Sensors Swanson of Virginia, Shields of Tennessee, and Martine of New Jersey, Democrats, with Borah of Idaho, and Keayon of Iowa, Republicans, were named as the subcommittee to conduct the investigation. Senator Swanson is chairman.

First Meeting Monday.

Senator Swanson announced that the subcommittee would meet Monday to prepare the preliminaries of the work. Of foremost importance in connection with the forthcoming investigation is the fact that the subcommittee is dominated by men who will insist upon a thorough investigation and who are inclined to sympathize with the miners.

It will be the purpose of the subcommittee to make the investigation as sweeping as possible and at the same time short. It will go fully into the conditions leading up to the strike in the Paint Creek region, all labor phases of the case will be studied, the facts as to peonage and alleged outrages will be explored, the operations of the military tribunal which has thrown men into prison for long terms will be subjected to the x-ray, and more than the war, the big financial interests and the railroads are involved will be looked into with care.

Sherman Law Involved.

Whether there has been violation of the Sherman law by combinations will be one of the subjects the subcommittee will keep in mind. It is charged by mine operators in the Paint Creek district that the strike was stirred up by competing miners. The subcommittee will go into these charges fully.

The purpose of the subcommittee is to set an example of a brief and yet thorough investigation, with as little expenditure of money as possible. It is believed it will not extend over more than a month.

Early Witnesses.

One of the first witnesses will be the immigration inspector, whose report, in part, it is charged, was suppressed. The committee will also call upon the Commissioner of the Immigration and Customs Service, who is believed to have been in the Paint Creek district at the time of the strike.

Benjamin B. Sheppard, a salesman, thirty-two years old, of 1242 Columbia road northwest, was arrested today as a detective of O'Brien and Springman as a fugitive from justice.

The arrest was made at the request of the Frederick, Md., authorities, which, according to a copy of the warrant, Sheppard was wanted on a charge of obtaining \$1,100 from G. Edward Myers and John D. Keller, by alleged false pretenses. The case is said to involve a stock transaction.

Sheppard denied that there was any foundation for the charge, and expressed a willingness to return to Frederick.

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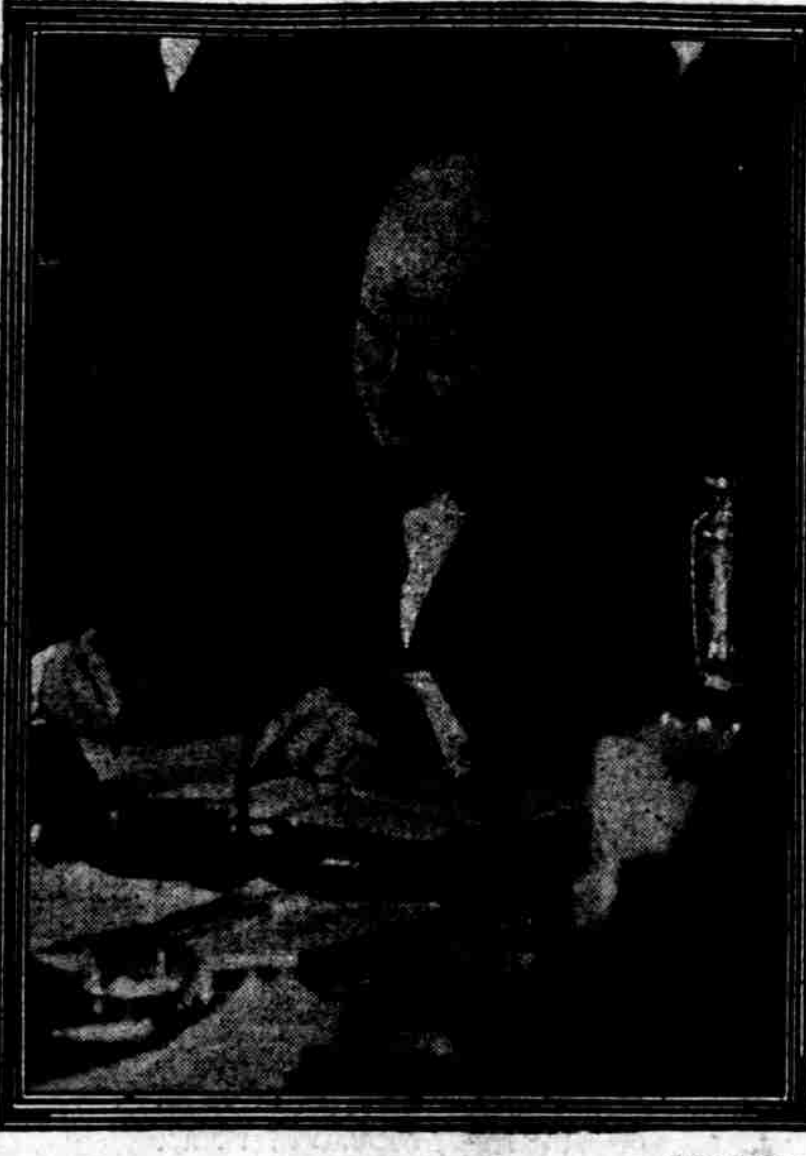
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Secretary Bryan Signs Proclamation



—Photo by Buck.

DIRECT ELECTION OF SENATORS NOW LAW

Secretary of State Bryan Signs Proclamation of Seventeenth Amendment.

The election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people is now provided for by the law of the land. Secretary of State Bryan signed the proclamation announcing the ratification of the Seventeenth Amendment to the Constitution at 11 o'clock this morning.

Present by special invitation in the Secretary's office when the proclamation was signed were former Congressman Harry S. Tucker of Virginia, who fathered a direct election resolution in the Fifty-second Congress, twenty-one years ago, and Senator Borah of Idaho, and Congressman Tucker of Missouri, who were chairmen of the Senate and House committees in charge of the resolution which submitted the present amendment to Congress.

Secretary Bryan used four pens in signing the proclamation. With one he signed the first name, "William," delivering it to former Congressman Tucker; the second pen, which was used to sign the name "Jennings," was given to Congressman Rucker; the third pen, with which he signed the last part of the name "Jennings," was given to Senator Borah; and the fourth pen he gave to Senator Borah, after signing the date.

Grouped around the Secretary as he signed the proclamation were the three guests. Seated beside the Secretary were Mrs. Bryan and Miss May Sharpe, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., a sister of Mrs. Tucker.

Secretary Bryan afterward expressed his deep gratification that the announcement of the ratification had fallen to him. "I regard this as the most important reform that has been made in a century affecting the methods of the Federal Government," said the Secretary, "and I believe that a Senate chosen by the people, and thus made responsive to the people's will, instead of degenerating into an unresponsive body, will improve the character of the government, and thus will be a direct benefit to the people."

When a car would get to the Great Falls Station there would be a savage rush for the door, and women had their dresses torn and their hats crushed, while the men fared no better. There was but one telephone line from the Falls Station to Washington, and it was so crowded that it was impossible to get a message through.

Officials of the road said this morning that the rush had been so bad that the road was closed for several hours. The last of the crowd left Great Falls at 2:30 p. m., reaching Washington at 3:30 p. m. All service on the road was normal thereafter.

London.—Kaiser Wilhelm was debbed "The Peace Lord of Europe" here today on route for Berlin to attend the celebration of the twenty-fifth year of the German Emperor's reign.

Paris.—War dogs of Bulgaria and Greece, which have been threatening to fly at each other over the status of Salonika, have been considerably tamed by a notification from the powers that further hostilities in the Balkans will be suppressed with a strong hand.

Rome.—Carbonate of lime as a cure for pellagra, a disease which claims thousands of lives annually in Europe and America, is the latest discovery to be brought to the attention of the Italian Academy of Science.

Seoul, Korea.—Twenty Koreans have been arrested in the province of Chung-Nyong charged with conspiracy in planning the restoration of an army to fight for the restoration of the independence of Korea.

Manchester.—Edgar Whitley, manager of the National Labor Press, was today committed for trial on a charge of conspiracy growing out of the company's publication of an issue of the Suffragette.

ROOSEVELT PUTS AIDES ON STAND

Loeb, Sloan, and Tyree Swear They Never Saw the Colonel Intoxicated.

CLIMAX TO HIS EVIDENCE

Plaintiff's Closest Associates at White House and on Trips Tell of Conduct.

MARQUETTE, Mich., May 31.—As a sort of climax to his case, Theodore Roosevelt brought into court today the four men who have been closer to him than anyone that lives, aside from his wife and children, to testify that he had never taken liquor to excess.

W. Emlen Roosevelt, his cousin and lifelong chum; Frank Tyree, and "Jimmy" Sloan, the Secret Service men, who spent all their waking hours with him while he was President and slept at his door at night; and William Loeb, Jr., collector of the port of New York, the colonel's private secretary while he was governor and President, all mounted the stand and swore the colonel's use of strong drink comes close to total abstinence.

Only Milk Entered Room.

Tyree, who guarded his door during the ten hottest exciting days of the Chicago National Convention last year, swore in that time no drink but milk entered the colonel's room.

W. P. Schaefele, of Cleveland, the railroad traffic manager who routed and traveled with the colonel's campaign train in 1912, also testified that Roosevelt drank no more than a single glass of mildly alcoholic drink on any one occasion.

Rumors circulating through Marquette that the libel suit may come to a sudden termination before Monday, through action of attorneys for the defense, found general credence here, though attorneys for neither side would make any such admission.

Statements of Lawyers.

"If anything develops," said Attorney W. F. Belden, counsel for Editor George A. Newett, of Indianapolis, "a sufficient notice will be given in advance."

This cryptic utterance was as far as Mr. Belden would go. Colonel Roosevelt's attorneys declared emphatically that they had heard no move to take the case from the jury on an agreed verdict in favor of the colonel. Marquette is frankly waiting, however, for such an outcome.

Trial On All Day.

Judge Plannigan announced at opening of court that the trial would continue through the day.

Joseph E. Baylis, representative in the Michigan legislature, was placed on the stand. Loeb, who was ready to testify, was told to wait a little.

"Were you living in Suite 808 Marie in October, 1912?" asked Attorney Pount.

"I was," said Baylis. He was shown a copy of Iron Ore, the issue which contained the alleged libel against Colonel Roosevelt.

"I was not a subscriber," he said, "and this was the first copy of the paper I ever had seen."

The attorney expected to show the paper containing the charge that the colonel was drunk was circulated broadcast through northern Michigan.

Nephew Then Called.

Then Emlen Roosevelt was called to the stand.

"Until he was twenty-one, we lived within a few hundred yards of one another," said Emlen Roosevelt.

"We always have been most intimate friends. When he was living in New York we were in and out of each other's houses daily, when he began going on hunting trips, I went with him. I was with him as his guest two or three times as Governor of New York. I was with him when he was work in as Vice President and President. I was with him in a great many public functions."

"I ask you from your observation of this plaintiff through the last fifteen years, what are his habits as to the use of intoxicating liquors?" inquired Mr. Pount.

"He is as temperate a man as I know," said Mr. Loeb. The colonel was highly tickled with the next remark of the witness.

WILSON FOR IMMEDIATE CURRENCY LEGISLATION TO BALK TARIFF PARTIS

President Writes Senator Tillman Democratic Party Is Bound in Loyalty to Country to Enact Laws At Once in Order to Balk Artificial Trade Disturbances.

DECLARES MEASURE IS NEEDED SOON AS UNDERWOOD DUTIES ARE ADOPTED

By JOHN SNURE.

President Wilson in a letter to Senator Tillman of South Carolina has declared himself strongly for immediate currency legislation. He holds it should be done at once in order to block attempts to create business disturbances after the tariff bill has passed.

In his letter to Senator Tillman, the President says: "This is the time to pass currency legislation and I think we are in a sense bound in loyalty to the country to pass it so that any attempt to create artificial disturbances after the tariff shall have become law may be offset by a free system of credit which will make it possible for men big and little to take care of themselves in business."

FORECAST OF PRESIDENT'S CURRENCY MESSAGE.

This expression is unquestionably a forecast of the nature of the message President Wilson will send to Congress on the currency, in so far as relates to need of prompt action.

The President was led to make the statement from the fact that Senator Tillman recently wrote him strongly urging the wisdom of prompt currency legislation. There is no doubt in the mind of anybody that the Republicans are fighting desperately, with their backs to the wall, to prevent the enactment of currency legislation as soon as possible. The President's term they are fighting to prevent the enactment of currency legislation as soon as possible.

The correspondence was disclosed by Senator Tillman. The statement of the President's Secretary is that the President's term they are fighting to prevent the enactment of currency legislation as soon as possible.

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PROTEST LATIMER AS JUVENILE JUDGE

Maryland Democrats Accuse Him of Political Duplicity in Note to Senator.

A protest against the confirmation of J. Wilmer Latimer, whom the President has appointed as judge of the Juvenile Court, has been sent to Senator Ashurst of Arizona. It is signed by a number of Maryland Democrats, and charges Mr. Latimer with political duplicity.

The letter has been turned over to the District Committee of the Senate by Senator Ashurst.

Use of Tobaccos And Liquor Grows

Beer and whisky drinking in the United States, not to mention cigarette smoking, is on the increase. Figures compiled on the internal revenue tax paid on these articles show that they have been made and used in far greater quantities than last year.

Up to the close of business May 29, the internal revenue receipts for the current year were nearly \$17,000,000 ahead of the receipts for the same period of last year.

Of this increase beer and fermented liquors manufactured in greater quantities are responsible for \$2,350,000. Receipts from wines, whiskies, and other spirituous liquors are \$7,000,000 in excess of last year; from cigarettes, \$300,000 in excess of last year, and from tobacco in all its forms \$5,000,000 in excess of last year.

The White House, May 27, 1913.

My Dear Senator: I am warmly obliged to you for your letter of the 24th, and want to say that I heartily agree with the conclusions it contains, and in which Congressman Johnson joins. This is the time to pass currency legislation, and I think we are in a sense bound in loyalty to the country to pass it so that any attempt to create artificial disturbances after the tariff shall have become law may be offset by a free system of credit which will make it possible for men big and little to take care of themselves in business. I am sincerely obliged to you for your kindnes in writing me.

Hastily and cordially yours, WOODROW WILSON.

Hon. Benjamin Tillman, United States Senator.

View of Congressman.

"I was talking with Congressman Johnson on this matter a while back, and the reason he gave why we should act promptly on currency and banking was so cogent I asked him to set them down. He dictated them to my stenographer as follows:

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LATEST NEWS BULLETINS

DOMESTIC.

Bethlehem, Pa.—Charles Keller is dead. David Dietrich and Charles Letting are believed to be dying as a result of an accident when an automobile driven by Keller crashed into a tree. A defective steering gear is blamed for the accident.

New York.—Fritz Greenwald, aged twenty-one, injured in a ball game between two amateur teams, died on a Pennsylvania railroad train en route to a hospital here today. Greenwald, while catching his skull fractured by a foul tip. A splintered bone penetrated the brain.

New York.—Ethel Barrymore Colt, actress, is in quarantine in Minton House, and will have to remain there at least a week because her daughter, her second child, is suffering from diphtheria. Her condition is not particularly dangerous.

Chicago.—Archbishop Patrick William Riordan, for a ball game between two amateur teams, died on a Pennsylvania railroad train en route to a hospital here today. Greenwald, while catching his skull fractured by a foul tip. A splintered bone penetrated the brain.

Denver.—Today is the last day of the mayoralty term of government in the city of Denver. The law establishing the commission form goes into effect tomorrow. The new commissioners will be inaugurated Monday.

FOREIGN.

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GOES INTO BANKRUPTCY.